

## **Hungry Valley Broadband Project / Status Update**

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Joseph Chicago Reno Sparks Indian Colony 98 Colony Road Reno, NV 89502

A brief history: Two days before 2011 began; The Reno Sparks Indian Colony was awarded a 5 year grant from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utility Services (USDA-RUS) for the purpose of delivering high-speed internet access to the residents of Hungry Valley. There are currently 164 houses targeted for installation.

What the project is: The <u>Hungry Valley Broadband Project</u> is a major initiative that will bring high-speed internet service to the residents of Hungry Valley. The data will be delivered to the homes via high-speed, secure wireless technology. All participating residents will be able to enjoy high speed internet access *and* take advantage of complimentary services that use a broadband (high-speed) internet connection. Many of the technologies used in this project are based on renewable energy sources such as Solar and Wind power, and the system has been re-designed with future growth in mind – as needs expand so will the system.

Where the project is: The official document packages that contain the original signed 245 (Engineering) contracts have been sent to Washington. The 245 and its associated documents enable the Colony to utilize PK Electrical as the mandatory PE for the project. PK was selected through an RFQ process. Once the USDA 'officially' approves these contracts, the first task will be to create and release the Construction RFP. This will be done within three weeks of approval.

**When** will this take place? The purpose and end result of the above mentioned RFP is to select the company that will perform the actual construction of the broadband system. The anticipated length of time to finish construction and testing is 2-3 months. So, if no significant delays occur, the system could be fully operational and functioning within a 4-5 month window.